

State of Wisconsin.

BUREAU OF

Population, Census and Industrial Statistics.

L A W S

RELATING TO

PERSONAL SAFETY

Factories, Workshops, Hotels, Lodging Houses,
Churches, Public Halls and School Buildings;

ALSO, ENACTMENTS IN RESPECT OF

HOURS OF LABOR, CHILD LABOR,

Inspection of Elevators, Factories and Other
Buildings;

AND DUTIES AND LIABILITIES OF

Architects, Proprietors and Other Persons.

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INSPECTION LAWS.

1 Powers and Duties of the Bureau of Labor, Census and Industrial Statistics.

SECTION 4, chapter 247, laws of 1885. The duties of the said commissioner of the Bureau of Labor, Census and Industrial Statistics shall be to collect, collate and publish statistics and facts relative to the manufactures, industrial classes and material resources of the state; and especially to examine into the relations between labor and capital; the means of escape from fire, and protection of life and health in factories and work shops, the employment of illegal child labor, the exaction of unlawful hours of labor from women and children, the educational, sanitary, moral and financial condition of laborers and artisans, the cost of food, fuel, clothing and building material, the causes of strikes and lockouts, as well as kindred subjects and matters pertaining to the welfare of industrial interests and classes.

SECTION 5. The commissioner, his deputy, or the factory inspector, shall have power to enter any factory or workshop in which labor is employed, for the purpose of gathering facts and statistics, or of examining the means of escape from fire, and the provisions made for the health and safety of operatives in such factory or workshop; and in case the officer of the bureau shall discover any violations of, or neglect to comply with, the laws in respect to child labor, hours of labor for women or children, fire escapes, and similar enactments now or hereafter to be made, he shall notify the owner or occupant of such factory or workshop, in writing, of the offense or neglect, and if such offense or neglect is not corrected or remedied within thirty days after the service of the notice aforesaid, he shall lodge formal

complaint with the district attorney of the county in which the offense is committed or the neglect occur, whereupon that officer shall proceed at once against the offender according to law.

SECTION 6. The factory inspector or any officer of the bureau may examine hotels, lodging or boarding houses, for the purpose of discovering whether they are properly equipped with lawful fire escapes; and he may post in any hotel, lodging or boarding house so examined, the laws upon this matter, together with his official statement as to whether the said laws are fully complied with by said hotel, lodging or boarding house. And any hotel, lodging or boarding house keeper, or other person, who shall mutilate, destroy or remove from any building or buildings, the said laws or statement so posted, shall be fined \$50 for each and every offense, upon complaint of any officer of the bureau or any citizen. Whenever any hotel, lodging or boarding house that has been posted as not complying with the terms of the laws in respect to fire escapes, shall be properly provided and equipped with lawful fire escapes, and the bureau shall be notified thereof, the commissioner shall at once order a new statement setting forth that fact, to be posted in said hotel, lodging or boarding house. And the bureau shall keep a record of all buildings so examined and posted.

SECTION 7. The factory inspector, or any officer of the bureau, may post in any factory or workshop examined by him, the laws now or hereafter to be made in respect of child labor, hours of labor, fire escapes, or other matters pertaining to the health and safety of artisans; and if the owner, manager or proprietor of such factory or workshop, or his agent, or any person whomsoever, shall remove, destroy or

mutilate the laws so posted, he shall, on complaint of any officer of the bureau, or any citizen, be fined \$50 for each and every offense.

SECTION 8. The said commissioner shall have power to prescribe blank forms, and transmit them to employers, which shall be filled out clearly and completely, under oath, by the person or persons to whom they are sent, with the facts, statistics and statements asked for, and returned to him within such reasonable time as he may fix. In case any owner or occupant, or his agent, shall refuse to admit any officer of the said bureau to his workshop or factory, he shall forfeit the sum of ten dollars for each and every offense, and if he shall, through his agent or otherwise, neglect, fail or refuse to fill out the said blank forms, and verify and return them as required, he shall forfeit the sum of ten dollars for each and every day the said blanks may be so delayed beyond the time fixed by the commissioner for their return. The forfeits named and provided in this act shall be sued for in the name of the state, by the district attorney of the proper county, upon complaint of any officer of said bureau, or any citizen, and shall be paid into the school fund.

Labor of Children.

SECTION 1, chapter 109, laws of 1891. No child under fourteen years of age shall be employed at labor or service in any mine, factory, workshop or place of public entertainment or amusement, in this state, except upon permit as hereinafter provided; but nothing herein shall interfere with or prohibit the employment of such child, in the service of its parent outside of school hours.

SECTION 2. The county judge of the county wherein any child resides, may by order of record, grant a permit and

deliver a copy thereof under seal, to any child over twelve years of age exempting such child from the operation of this act as to employment. Every such permit shall specify the conditions and the time during which such child may be employed, fixing such limitations as to said judge shall seem proper; and in determining whether such permit shall be granted, the said county judge shall consider the moral and physical condition of the child, his state of education, the necessities of the family to which such child belongs, and such other circumstances as in the discretion of the judge ought to affect the question of exemption. No charge or fee shall be required in any matter under this section; provided, that where such child resides at a distance of more than ten miles from the county seat, the power to grant permits herein conferred upon the county judge may, under the same limitations and with the same conditions be exercised by the mayor of the city or the president of the incorporated village in which or nearest to which said child or its parent reside.

SECTION 3. Any person, company, firm or corporation that employs or permits to be employed at work any child in violation of the foregoing provisions of this act, and any parent or other person having the control of any such child who permits such employment, shall, on conviction, be punished by a fine of not less than ten nor more than fifty dollars. Nothing herein shall be construed to interfere with the district attorney of any county presenting violations of this act.

SECTION 4. It shall be the duty of the commissioner of the Bureau of Labor, Census, and Industrial Statistics, the factory inspector and the deputy or deputies of said bureau

to enforce the provisions of this act and to prosecute all violations thereof before any magistrate or any court of competent jurisdiction.

Fire Escapes—Factories.

SECTION 1, chapter 50, laws of 1885. Section 4,575*a* of the revised statutes, is amended so as to read as follows: Section 4,575*a*. Any person, persons or body corporate owning, occupying or controlling any factory, workshop or structure three or more stories high, in which several persons are employed at any kind of labor, on or above the third floor or story, shall provide and keep connected with the same, one or more good and substantial metallic or fire-proof ladders, stairs or stairways, ready for use at all times, reaching from the cornice to the ground, on the outside of such building, and placed in such position as to be easy of access to the occupants of such building in case of fire, and sufficient to furnish reasonable means of escape to the persons employed therein, from each and every floor or story. And any such person, persons or corporate body who shall for three months after the passage and publication of this act fail to provide and keep such means of escape from fire, shall be subject to a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars, or to imprisonment in the county jail not exceeding three months, at the discretion of the court.

Fire Escapes—Hotels, Office Buildings, Assembly Halls, Tenement Houses, etc.

SECTION 1, chapter 375, laws of 1885, as amended by the laws of 1889.—Section 1. Every inn, hotel, boarding house, or tenement building in this state, more than two stories in height, containing sleeping apartments, offices, theaters or assembly halls above the ground floor, designed

for occupancy by twenty-five or more persons, shall be provided with not less than two fire-proof stairs or ladders outside; said stairs or ladders to be located on different sides of said inn, hotel, boarding-house or tenement building, in each case connecting the cornice with the top of the first story of any such inn, hotel, boarding-house or tenement building, with a platform, balcony, piazza or other safe and convenient resting place on a level with the floor of each story so connected. Such stairways or ladders herein named shall in every case be convenient of access from the interior of any such building, commodious in construction, and of sufficient strength and firmness to render the same amply safe and reliable for the purpose of ascent and descent in case of danger from fire. But this act shall not be construed so as to apply to private dwellings.

SECTION 2. The inside walls or casings of every elevator for the conveyance of passengers to and from the upper stories of any such building as is described in the preceding section of this act, shall be constructed of fire-proof material throughout.

SECTION 3. In all inns, hotels or other buildings hereinbefore described, not less than one efficient watchman shall be on service from 10 o'clock P. M. until 5 o'clock A. M., during each and every night that said inn, hotel or other building described, is occupied, and every said watchman shall be required to establish the fact of his fidelity on every occasion when on duty, by the most efficient methods in use for that purpose.

SECTION 4. In every inn, hotel or other building hereinbefore described, there shall be posted in every room, in

legible print, a brief and accurate statement of all means of safety and escape in case of fire.

SECTION 5. Any owner, landlord or other person in charge of any building hereinbefore described, and coming within the provisions of this act, who shall omit to comply with the provisions of this act, or who shall knowingly permit any violation of the provisions of this act, shall be held guilty of a misdemeanor in permitting the violations of any provisions of this act, and for such misdemeanor may be punished by a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars, or by imprisonment not exceeding ninety days, on each conviction thereof.

Passenger and other Elevators—Liability of Proprietors—Duty of District Attorneys.

SECTION 1, chapter 453, laws of 1887. The state factory inspector, his assistant, or any officer of the Bureau of Labor, Census and Industrial Statistics, may examine elevators used for carrying freight or passengers, or both, and shall condemn those found to be defective or unsafe by written notice given to the proprietor or owner, or the agent of either, or by posting said notice on the elevator walls or cab. And if any elevator so condemned shall be continued in use without repairs, and loss of limb or life result therefrom, the owner or proprietor so keeping it in use shall be held fully responsible, civilly and criminally, for said loss of life or limb.

SECTION 2. The said factory inspector or any officer named in section 1, of this act, shall have power to order bull-wheels, fly-wheels, tumbling rods, elevator wells, stairways, shafting or dangerous machinery of any kind to be guarded and protected, so as not to hazard the safety of workmen or visitors. Any person refusing to obey his orders in

this respect shall be fined fifty dollars for each and every offense.

SECTION 3. Whenever the state factory inspector, or his assistant, or any officer of the Bureau of Labor, Census and Industrial Statistics, shall file complaint with any district attorney that any hotel, factory or public building, or any structure whatsoever in his county, is being used without fire escapes, watchmen or other means of safety prescribed by law, the said district attorney shall at once proceed against the offender according to law; and shall, without further aid or presence of the state factory inspector or the other officers named in this section, secure the necessary witnesses and evidence for the complete information of the jury. And in case he shall refuse so to do, the state factory inspector or any officer named in this act, may file charges against him with the governor, and ask his removal for willful neglect of duty and malfeasance of office.

Duties of Architects and Others.

SECTION 1, chapter 46, laws of 1887. Any architect who shall draw plans for, or superintend the erection of any school-house, church, hall, factory or hotel, without providing in said plans the fire-escapes, and outward-swinging doors now required by law, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof shall be fined twenty-five dollars for the first offense, and one hundred dollars for each subsequent offense.

SECTION 2. Any person or persons, body corporate, official or officials, who shall erect or cause to be erected, any building named in this act, without providing the fire-escapes and outward-swinging doors, or who shall neglect to provide

the same as required by law, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be fined one hundred dollars.

Outward-Swinging Doors.

SECTION 1, chapter 190, laws of 1885. All churches, public and private school-houses, hotels, factories or other manufacturing establishments, constructed at any time after the passage of this act, shall be so constructed that the doors shall swing outward, or both in and out, as the builders thereof may elect.

Health and Safety of Employes.

SECTION 1, chapter 549, laws of 1887. No person, persons or corporation shall employ and put to work in any factory, workshop or other place of employment, or in any room, or other part of such factory, workshop or other place of employment, more persons than the laws of health will warrant, as shall be determined by the board of health.

SECTION 2. Every stationary vat, pan or other structure with molten metal or hot liquids shall be surrounded with proper safeguards for preventing accidents or injury to those employed at or near them. All belting, shafting, gearing, hoists, fly-wheels, elevators and drums of manufacturing establishments so located as to be dangerous to employes when engaged in their ordinary duties, shall be securely guarded or fenced, so as to be safe to persons employed in any such place of employment.

SECTION 3. Any person, company or corporation who shall refuse or fail to comply with the provisions of this act, shall forfeit not to exceed twenty-five dollars for each offense, and every day's failure after the first conviction shall

constitute a separate offense, after due notice by the state factory inspector.

Interfering with Laborers or Machinery.

SECTION 1, chapter 427, laws of 1887. Any person who by threats, intimidation, force or coercion of any kind, shall hinder or prevent any other person from engaging in or continuing in any lawful work or employment, either for himself or as a wageworker, or who shall attempt to so hinder or prevent, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars, or by imprisonment in the county jail not more than six months, or by both fine and imprisonment, in the discretion of the court.

SECTION 2. If any person who shall individually or in association with one or more others, willfully break, injure or remove any part or parts of any railway car or locomotive, or any other portable vehicle or traction engine, or any part or parts of any stationary engine, machine, implement or machinery for the purpose of destroying such locomotive, engine, car, vehicle, implement or machinery, or of preventing the useful operation thereof; or who shall in any other way willfully or maliciously interfere with or prevent the running or operation of any locomotive, engine or machinery, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars or by imprisonment in the county jail or the state prison not exceeding two years, or by both fine and imprisonment in the discretion of the court.

To Prevent Accidents to Employes.

SECTION 1, chapter 226, laws of 1891. In every manufacturing establishment where the machinery used is propelled by steam power, communication shall be provided between each room where such machinery is placed and the room where the engineer is stationed, by means of speaking tubes or electric bells; provided, that in the judgment of the inspectors such communication is necessary.

SECTION 2. The factory inspectors shall enforce the provisions of this act, and any person, firm or corporation, being the occupant of any manufacturing establishment, or controlling the use of any building or room where machinery propelled by steam is used, violating the provisions of this act, shall be fined, not less than ten nor more than fifty dollars; but no prosecution shall be made for such violation, until thirty days after written notice by an inspector has been sent by mail to such person, firm or corporation, of any changes necessary to be made to comply with the provisions of this act, nor then, if in the meantime, such changes have been made in accordance with such notification.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after the date of its passage and publication.



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